

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 3073

Introduced by Committee on Governmental Organization (Torrico (Chair), Charles Calderon, Davis, De Leon, Evans, Jeffries, Levine, Mendoza, Portantino, Price, Soto, and Tran)

March 13, 2008

An act to amend Section 19549 of the Business and Professions Code, and to amend Section 4058 of the Food and Agricultural Code, relating to horse racing.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 3073, as introduced, Committee on Governmental Organization. Horse racing: racing days.

Existing law provides that the jurisdiction and supervision over meetings in this state where horse races with wagering on their results are held or conducted, and over all persons or things having to do with the operation of such meetings, is vested in the California Horse Racing Board. This jurisdiction includes the authority to allocate racing days and weeks to racing associations and fairs, as provided. Existing law permits the board to allocate up to 14 racing days to a fair each year, with specified exceptions, and provides that these 14 days shall be during the period in which general fair activities are conducted.

This bill would delete the requirement that the racing days be during the period in which general fair activities are conducted. The bill would also make conforming changes.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 19549 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

19549. Except as provided in Section 19549.1, the maximum number of racing days that may be allocated to a fair shall be 14 days each year. ~~Those racing days shall be days during the period in which general fair activities are conducted.~~ However, any fair racing association that conducted racing in the central or southern zone prior to January 1, 1980, shall be entitled to be allocated up to three weeks of racing. The board shall take public testimony and make all determinations on the allocation of racing dates during a public hearing. All discussions of allocating racing dates by the board or its subcommittees shall be conducted during a public hearing. Nothing in this section diminishes the authority of the board to establish racing dates.

SEC. 2. Section 4058 of the Food and Agricultural Code is amended to read:

4058. (a) Notwithstanding Section 4052, the California Exposition and State Fair, a district agricultural association fair, or county fair in the northern zone, with the approval of the Department of Food and Agriculture, may form an entity for conducting combined fair ~~horseracing~~ horse racing meetings and utilize their racing facilities for conducting ~~horseracing~~ horse racing meetings, with parimutuel wagering, on days other than the days on which general fair activities are conducted. ~~A combined fair horseracing meeting pursuant to this section shall be a general fair activity for the purpose of Section 19549 of the Business and Professions Code.~~

(b) The association shall designate certain days of a mixed breed meeting held pursuant to this section as charity days with the proceeds therefrom to be distributed in accordance with Sections 19550 and 19556 of the Business and Professions Code.

(c) The association shall encourage the racing of emerging breeds of horses.